IN THE MUNICIPAL COURT FOR THE CITY OF YAKIMA IN AND FOR THE STATE OF WASHINGTON AND YAKIMA COUNTY

In Re:

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION
LIMITING COURT OPERATIONS
RESULTING FROM PUBLIC HEALTH
EMERGENCY

GENERAL ORDER NO. 2020-02

ORDER SUPPLEMENTING ORDER 2020-02 ENTERED MAY 4, 2020

WHEREAS, the state and this county are experiencing continued and rapid increase in the numbers of people showing symptoms of and being diagnosed with the current strain of coronavirus known as COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is known to be highly contagious and easily transmitted in enclosed spaces like courtrooms and jury rooms of this court; and

WHEREAS, a State of Emergency has been declared by the President of the United States, the Governor of the State of Washington, the Board of County Commissioners for Yakima County, the City Council for the City of Yakima and the Yakima Health District due to the Covid-19 outbreak; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Supreme Court has adopted

AMENDED THIRD REVISED AND EXTENDED ORDER REGARDING COURT

OPERATIONS NO. 25700-B-626 filed May 29, 2020, which orders all criminal jury trials remain suspended until at least July 6, 2020 and noting that many out of custody criminal matters have been continued until after June 1, 2020, instructing that after June

1, 2020 courts *should* hear matters by telephone, video or other means that do not require in person attendance when appropriate, but *may* permit matters that require in person attendance if those hearing strictly comply with social distancing and other public health measures; and

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WHEREAS, in Proclamation 20-25.3 Governor Jay Inslee established an initial four-phased approach to reopening Washington State, and while all counties started Phase I on May 4, 2020, not all Counties qualify to progress to Phase II; and

WHEREAS, by Proclamation of the Governor, beginning June 1, 2020; the Safe Start Washington Phased Reopening Plan will be applied County by County and; inasmuch as Yakima County has not met the criteria to implement Phase II, the Stay Home- Stay Healthy prohibitions have been extended by Proclamation of the Governor with an expiration date of 11:59 p.m. on July 1, 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

- 1. All criminal jury trials remain suspended until at least July 6, 2020.
- 2. All Municipal Court hearings, both criminal and civil set in June 2020 are hereby stricken, except in-custody arraignments, in-custody change of plea hearings and in-custody bail hearings.
- Out-of-custody matters will continue to be heard telephonically or by other
 remote platform if available, unless extraordinary circumstances preclude virtual
 hearings, in which case any in-person hearings must strictly comply with social
 distancing and other public health measures.
- 4. The time period of May 29th and September 1, 2020 16, 2020 shall be excluded when calculating time for trial. See CrR 3.3(e)(3) and CrRLJ 3.3, and

Washington State Supreme Court Amended Third Revised and Extended Order Regarding Court Operations N. 25700-B-626.

- 5., The Municipal Court and Probation Services take the following emergency actions:
 - A. CrRLJ 4.1(a) shall be suspended for out of custody defendants. In custody defendant shall continue to be arraigned within 14 days. Counsel are encouraged to proceed to arraignment on behalf of the defendant in writing per CrRLJ 4.1 (g)(1).
 - B. The court will allow a defendant's waiver of personal appearance filed on their behalf by their counsel. Speedy trial on such matters will recommence when the defendant next appears in court.
 - C. IRLJ 2.2, IRLJ 2.4, IRLJ 2.6 are hereby suspended. Parties are encouraged to submit written materials by mail, or via the Court's electronic infraction response which will be operational on the Court's website Olby July-1, 2020 without the need for any party to appear in court. All infraction hearings that require the appearance of any party will be rescheduled to a later date.
 - D. Parties and counsel are encouraged to consider alternative means of conducting court business, (i.e through O Courts) for those matters which are already scheduled and/or time-sensitive. Agreed orders for continuance may be submitted through O-Courts with signed speedy trial waivers or a statement that speedy trial will recommence at the next court appearance, provided counsel for any defendant takes responsibility for serving the defendant and files a sworn statement of service in the court file.
 - E. Parties and/or their counsel who feel sick should not enter the Dick Zais Law and Justice Center. They should contact the court as soon as possible. A

warrant will not issue for a criminal defendant who contacts the court prior to a scheduled hearing because of illness. A warrant that does issue may be quashed if the defendant's absence was due to illness. When contacting the court to reschedule due to illness the parties shall provide a current address.

- F. The Court will provide notice of future hearing to the parties for all matters reset as a result of this order which will include instructions for conducting inperson appearances if such appearances are permitted.
- G. Traffic safety classes provided by probation shall be canceled until further notice.
- H. Anger management classes held in probation have been canceled.
- I. In person Probation appointments have been suspended.
- 6. This Order shall be reviewed regularly before July 1, 2020 and may be modified as necessary to address the ongoing state of emergency in conjunction with Washington State Supreme Court Orders Regarding Court Operations and Proclamations issued by the Governor of the State of Washington.

Dated this 1st day of June 2020.

Susan J. Woodard, Presiding Judge Yakima Municipal Court